



Central University of
Technology, Free State

■ FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

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Terminology Management in South Africa: A Review of Three Working Methods

- the linguistic oriented working method: the focus is on concepts and the standardisation of terms and concepts – terminology is adjusted to serve the linguistic system;
- the translation oriented working method: the focus is on data base production – terminology is developed to serve translation; and
- the language planning oriented working method: the focus is on systematic intervention to change the status of an (unstable) language – terminology is developed to serve a language planning agenda.

Working methods for terminology management and the implications thereof for the South African languages

WORKING METHOD	PURPOSE	REQUIREMENTS	ROLE PLAYERS	PRODUCTS
Linguistic oriented working method	Term and concept standardisation to ensure effective and precise communication amongst subject experts and specialists	Active mother tongue subject experts	Standardisation bodies Monolingual technical committees consisting of: Linguists Subject specialists Terminologists	ISO standardised terminology for the facilitation of communication amongst subject specialists

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Translation oriented working method	Terminological equivalence amongst developed languages to improve universality and to facilitate communication	Active mother tongue subject specialists Terminology available in the source language Translated corpora Language legislation: Equalisation of language(s) in question	Multilingual technical committees consisting of: Linguists Subject specialists Terminologists Translators	Terminology in developed languages that improve and facilitate translation

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Language planning oriented working method	Enhancing the language status of underdeveloped languages through appropriate language legislation or language policy and other language planning attempts (officialising) with the stress on language development	Dominant source language Source language terminology Language legislation or language policy Language development plan Creation, collection, systematisation and preparation of terms to enable language users to use language(s) for different functions Translation of texts to make documents accessible to users	Multilingual linguists Terminologists Users	Terminology in underdeveloped languages to enable the languages to be used for high functions



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Thank You

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